

Dear Senator Flexer, Representative Fox, Ranking Members Sampson and Mastrofrancesco and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections (GAE) Committee:

My name is Mary Doherty, I live in Southbury and I am writing in wholehearted support of:

HB 6578 AN ACT CONCERNING PARTICIPATION IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS.

SB 1017 AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTION ADMINISTRATION

I implore all Connecticut elected officials and residents to put ideology aside and strengthen our fragile Democracy by voting yes on HB 6578 and SB 1017 which are bills that strive to enable more citizens to participate in our electoral process. We are stronger as a state and country when we encourage voter participation and enact legislation that increases voter turnout.

Let's be honest. There is one overarching, cynical reason that anyone would oppose common sense measures such as HB 6578, SB 1017, HJ 58 and HJ 59 that seek to enfranchise more Connecticut citizens: The Big Lie.

Just for the record Senator Sampson, I contacted the State Elections Enforcement Commission (SEEC) about your specific (February 22, 2021) allegation that voters in your district tried to vote on November 3, 2020 but were not allowed to because "someone else" had voted absentee in their name. I specifically asked Josh Foley, a SEEC lawyer, if any such complaints had been filed with SEEC from your Senate district. Josh's answer was that no such complaints were filed, not only in Senate District 16, but in the ENTIRE STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

The Big Lie must stop. There is no room for it in the CT General Assembly.

Thank you,

Mary Doherty, Southbury, CT HD 69 and SD 32